

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Recombinantly produced L1 major capsid proteins which mimic conformational naturalizing epitopes on human and animal papilloma virions including canine and equine papilloma virions are provided. These recombinant proteins are useful as vaccines for conferring protection against papillomavirus infection. Antibodies to the recombinant protein are also provided. Such antibodies are useful in the diagnosis and treatment of viral infection.